

*a8*

5. (Amended) A composition of claim 4, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of bisacodyl, famotidine, prucalopride, diphenoxylate, loperamide, lactase, mesalamine, bismuth, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, isomers, and mixtures thereof.

*a9*

9. (Amended) A composition of claim 3 having from about 19 wt% to about 27 wt% silicified microcrystalline cellulose and having from about 31 wt% to about 39 wt% magnesium aluminometasilicate

*a10*

14. (Amended) A solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the weight ratio of simethicone to silicified microcrystalline cellulose and magnesium aluminometasilicate is at least about 0.50.

*a11*

17. (Amended) A solid oral dosage form of claim 16, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of bisacodyl, famotidine, prucalopride, diphenoxylate, loperamide, lactase, mesalamine, bismuth, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, isomers, and mixtures thereof.

*a12*

23. (Amended) A solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the compressed admixture is a tablet having a hardness value of at least 2 kp/cm<sup>2</sup>.

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Amended) A solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the compressed admixture is a tablet having a hardness value of from about 5 to about 10 kp/cm<sup>2</sup>.

*a13*

26. (Amended) A compressed solid dosage form comprising an admixture of simethicone, silicified microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium aluminometasilicate, wherein the weight ratio of simethicone to silicified microcrystalline cellulose and magnesium aluminometasilicate is at least about 0.50.